Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
SSM-05 IO-14 AID-05 HA-05 /099 W
----------012569 281438Z /43
R 281231Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5571
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS AMMAN 2859

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, JO, US, IS, XF
SUBJECT: PRESS TREATMENT OF AFTERMATH OF BEGIN VISIT TO U.S.

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN AFTERMATH OF BEGIN VISIT TO U.S., JORDANIAN PRESS MARCH 23-28 PROMINENTLY PLAYS WIRE-SERVICE REPORTING OF "FAILURE" OF CARTER-BEGIN TALKS ALONGSIDE CONTINUED REPORTING ON MILITARY SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. EDITORIALS DWELL ON THEME THAT BEGIN'S WASHINGTON PERFORMANCE ONLY FURTHER PROOF OF ISRAELI INTRANSIGNECE. PRES. CARTER'S INSISTENT REITERATION OF U.S. POSITION ON SETTLEMENTS AND ON UN RESOLUTION 242 SHOWS THAT U.S. CAN, AND INDEED HAS, PUT PRESSURE ON ISRAELI PM. PRESS ALSO ECHOES KING HUSSEIN'S CALL FOR ARAB UNITY. END SUMMARY.

1. WASHINGTON TALKS: "FAILURE" OF CARTER-BEGIN TALKS SHARE FRONT-PAGE PROMINENCE IN JORDANIAN PRESS WITH CONTINUED REPORTING ON SOUTHERN LEBANON SITUATION THROUGHOUT PERIOD MARCH 23-27. AD-DUSTUR AND AL-URDON MARCH 24 REPORT THAT PRES. CARTER, RECOGNIZING HIS FAILURE TO MOVE BEGIN FROM EXTREME POSITIONS,
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HAS NOW SOUGHT ASSISTANCE FROM SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE IN GETTING PARTIES BACK TO NEGOTIATING TABLE.

2. BEGIN'S SIX NO'S: MARCH 27 AL-AKHBAR LISTS THE "SIX NO'S" THAT MADE UP PM BEGIN'S PRESENTATION TO PRES. CARTER: NO STOPPAGE TO ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SETTLEMENTS, NO ABANDONING OF EXISTING SETTLEMENTS, NO PLACING OF SETTLEMENTS UNDER NON-ISRAELI PROTECTION,

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NO COMMITMENT TO WITHDRAW FROM WEST BANK OF GAZA, NO APPLICATION
OF 242 TO WEST BANK AND GAZA AND NO SELF-DETERMINATION FOR WEST
BANK AND GAZA.

3. U.S. "WORKING PAPERS": MARCH 27 AR-RAI FRONT-PAGE STORY
FROM CAIRO REPORTS THAT USG HAS PREPARED THREE WORKING PAPERS CONTAIN
ING
PROPOSALS FOR ACHIEVING "FRANK U.S. VIEW OF IMPASSE IN ENGOTIATIONS
OF ME PEACE." THREE PAPERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO "AUTHORITIES"
IN THE AREA FOR THEIR RESPONSENS; FROM THESE WASHINGTON WILL DECIDE
WHETHER OR NOT ATHERTON WILL RETURN TO ME.

4. EDITORIALS: EDITORIALS THROUGHOUT PERIOD PLAY UP POINT
THAT "FAILURE" OF TALKS IS INDICATION THAT PRESIDENT HOLDING FAST
TO HIS OFT-STATED POSITION ON SETTLEMENTS AND INTERPRETATION OF
RES. 242 IN FACE OF CONTINUED ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE. "FAILURE
OF TALKS PROVES THAT U.S. CAN PRESSURE ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER"
SAYS AL-AKHBAR EDITORIAL MARCH 25. IMPORTANCE OF CREATING UNIFIED
ARAB POSITION IS ALSO POPULAR EDITORIAL THEME IN WAKE OF BEGIN
VISIT AND CONTINUED ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF SOUTHERN LEBANON.
JORDAN TIMES MARCH 28 URGES ARAB UNITY TO EXPLOIT THE OPPORTUNITIES
CREATED BY THE "HISTORICALLY INEVITABLE DYNAMICS OF CHANGE"
BETWEEN "THE COLONIAL OUTPOST (ISRAEL) AND ITS HOME BASE
(AMERICA AND THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY." ARABS WILL AGAIN FAIL
THE CHALLENGE WITHOUT UNITY.

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5. COMMENT: JORDANIAN EDITORS HAVE CONFINED COVERAGE TO
PROLIFIC WIRE-SERVICE DISPATCHES AND INTERPETATIONS DETAILING
EXTENT OF U.S. DISSATISFACTION WITHIN BOTH EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE
BRANCHES WITH BEGIN'S ATTEMPT TO EXPLAIN ISRAELI POSITION ON
SETTLEMENTS AND 242. EDITORIAL APPLAUSE FOR PRES. CARTER'S
HAVING "TALKED TOUGH" TO ISRAELI LEADER EEINFORCES WIDE-SPREAD
BELIEF AMONG JORDANIANS THAT U.S. INDEED CAPABLE, IF WILLING,
OF PUSHING ISRAEL TOWARDS NEGOTIATING POSITIONS ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH
ARABS AND U.S.
SUDDARTH

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Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, SOPN, JO, US, IS, XF, (BEGIN, MENAHEM)
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